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～原作大賞＆新人コミック大賞受賞コンビがおくる巨弾読切44P!!～

WRITER: HAMANAKA AKIRA　ARTIST: NEMOTO SETSU

SCIENCE LAB
OCCULT RESEARCH SOCIETY MEETING IN PROGRESS!
THAT'S A PHOTO TAKEN IN THE HOTEL ON THE SCHOOL TRIP, RIGHT?
RIGHT!
SO ONE OF THE HOTEL GHOSTS...
JYUUMONJI YUMEKO (MIDDLE SCHOOL 3RD YEAR)
OCCULT RESEARCH SOCIETY PRESIDENT
AGAIN WITH THE STUPID LOGIC... THIS IS WHY PEOPLE CALL YOU A FREAK, YOU KNOW.
I'M NOT A FREAK! IT'S A SIMPLE MATTER OF...
THAT DISTORTION CAN BE EXPLAINED BY SIMPLE SCIENCE.

THE PEOPLE THAT G THERED IN THE PICTURE DISTURBED THE DUST AND THE FLASH REFLECTED OFF IT!
IT WAS THE FLASH REFLECTING OFF THE DUST THAT CAME THROUGH THE LENS AS YOUR 'SOULS'!
AND THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
YOU SHOULD TRY STUDYING FOR A CHANGE YUME-NEE!
KAZAMA SATORU (MIDDLE SCHOOL 1ST YEAR)
OCCULT RESEARCH SOCIETY MEMBER

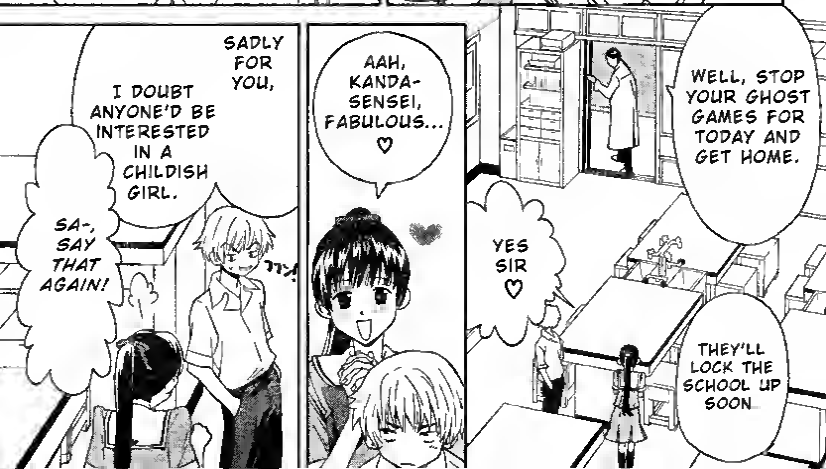
I FIND THE OCCULT UTTERLY RIDICULOUS, YET MY FRIENDSHIP RUNS THIS DEEP
FOOL, I ONLY ENROLLED IN THIS CLUB TO HELP YOU.
WHAT!? AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A MEMBER OF THE OCCULT RESEARCH SOCIETY!

TH-, THAT'S IN THE PAST! I'M FINE NOW!
HELL, YOU COULDN'T EVEN GO TO THE TOILET AT NIGHT ALONE!
EEEEK! I'm scared!
HMPH! YOU'VE BEEN A SCAREDY CAT EVER SINCE YOU WERE BORN,
YOU COULDN'T GO TO KINDERGARTEN WITHOUT ME,

SATORU~ WILL YOU CUT IT...
SQUEEZE
NOW SHALL WE GO TO A SHRINE AND FIND A JAR TO BREAK AND MAYBE WE'LL SEE A GHOST?
BUT MAN, IN THIS AGE OF SCIENCE AND ADVANCEMENT, IT MUST BE TERRIBLE FOR STUPID OCCULT MANIACS, HUH?

KA-... KANDA-SENSEI...
ガラッ
HEY GUYS,
IT'S ALREADY 6, IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU..

I-, I SEE. BUT I'M RATHER SURPRISED AT YOU KAZAMA.
YOU'RE ONE OF THE TOP STUDENTS AT THIS SCHOOL, YET YOU SPEND YOUR FREE TIME IN SUCH A STRANGE CLUB.
ポポポ
A-... ARA!? SATORU-KUN HERE, UH... WAS POSSESSED BY AN EVIL SPIRIT,
I WAS JUST EXORCISING IT.


SADLY FOR YOU,
I DOUBT ANYONE'D BE INTERESTED IN A CHILDISH GIRL.
SA-, SAY THAT AGAIN!
ﾌﾝ!
AAH, KANDA-SENSEI, FABULOUS... ♡
WELL, STOP YOUR GHOST GAMES FOR TODAY AND GET HOME.
YES SIR ♡
THEY'LL LOCK THE SCHOOL UP SOON.

AH.
COULD IT BE THAT YOU'RE JEALOUS?
WHA-...
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT!
TH-, THERE'S NO WAY!
HMMM.
SHALL WE GO ON A DATE?
EH...
THEN WE'RE SET UP FOR THE DAY YOU'RE TALLER THAN ME!
!
ST-, STOP MAKING FUN OF ME!
I'M GOING HOME!
...WAIT FOR ME!
EH, HUH...?
SERIOUSLY ...?
I'LL CATCH YOU IN NO TIME!
THAT WAS—
キュッ

THE LAST TIME I EVER SAW SATORU ALIVE.
HE NEVER GOT TALLER THAN ME! WE NEVER WENT ON OUR DATE...
THAT DAY, HE WAS STRUCK BY LIGHT-NING,
AND DIED-
KAZAMA SATORU MEMORIAL SERVICE

AH... TEACHERS ...
JYUU-MONJI-SAN.
DON'T PUSH YOUR-SELF TOO HARD.
YE-... YES MA'AM ...
WHO EVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT SUCH A THING COULD HAPPEN...
PRIN-CIPAL ...
HE WAS THE BEST STUDENT I'VE EVER HAD THE PRIVILEGE TO GIVE AN EDUCATION.
THIS LOSS IS UNEXP-LAINABLY REGRET-TABLE.

HEY, WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT...
SO IF I WASN'T A GOOD STUDENT, YOU WOULDN'T CARE?

SATORU ……?
SA- ……

!
YUME-NEE, YOU CAN SEE ME!?
EH .....
LISTEN TO ME! I...
JYUU-MONJI-KUN?
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST...
A... GHOST ...?
NOTICE ME, YOU FAT BASTARD!! I'M RIGHT HERE...
I SEE... KAZAMA-KUN WAS LIKE A LITTLE BROTHER TO YOU, SO IT'S UNDER-STANDABLE.
THIS IS,
I CAN SEE THROUGH SATORU ...

I'M A GHOST...
THOUGHT SO
TAKE CARE...
FOR TODAY, PLEASE REST.
WELL, THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION, IS THERE?
GHOST.....
SORRY, BUT...
H-... HEY, WHY'RE YOU CRYING!?
ポロッ
PUH
SOMEONE AFRAID OF GHOSTS IS A GHOST.
11
ポカン
DO-, DON'T LAUGH! THIS IS...

YOU'VE COME BACK TO ME.....
EVEN IF YOU ARE A GHOST,
I'M SO HAPPY.
.....CHE..
HOPELESS GIRL

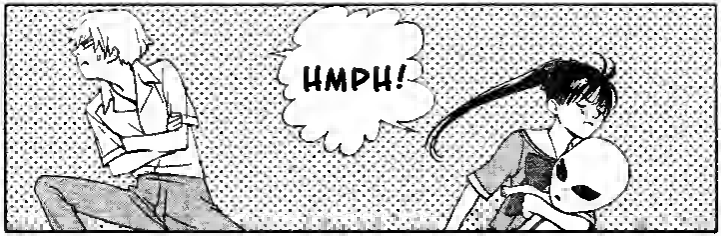
EH? WHY?
IT'S TOTALLY NORMAL
DO YOU ALWAYS SLEEP IN A ROOM LIKE THIS?
YU-YUME-NEE..

YOU SEE, LATELY I'VE HAD A CRUSH ON GREY♡
IT'S NOT NORMAL!!
ISN'T 'GREY' THE NAME OF AN ALIEN!?

HY AAH!
月刊オカルティック
怪奇千万特集
YOU'RE NOT SCARED, ARE YOU?
OF OF OF OF COURSE NOT

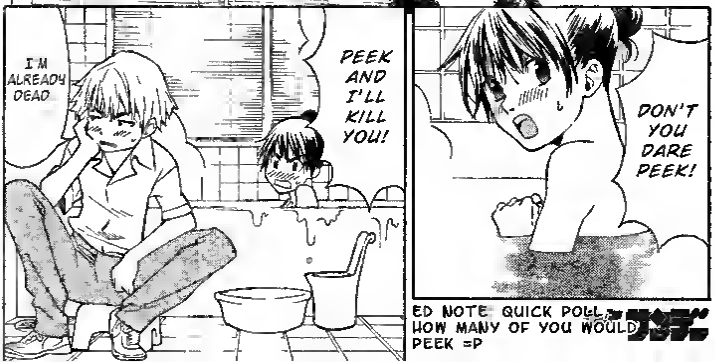
BESIDES, YUME-NEE!
I STARTED STUDYING IN THE FIRST PLACE
TO PROVE GHOSTS DON'T EXIST
SH-, SHUT UP!
EVEN THOUGH YOU SAID YOU WERE OVER IT!
AHAHA-HAH! YOU ARE SCARED.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, THEN GET OUT!
I'LL DO THAT!
HOW CAN SOMEONE CALL THEMSELVES A GIRL AND SLEEP IN A ROOM LIKE THIS!?
WHAT WAS THAT!?

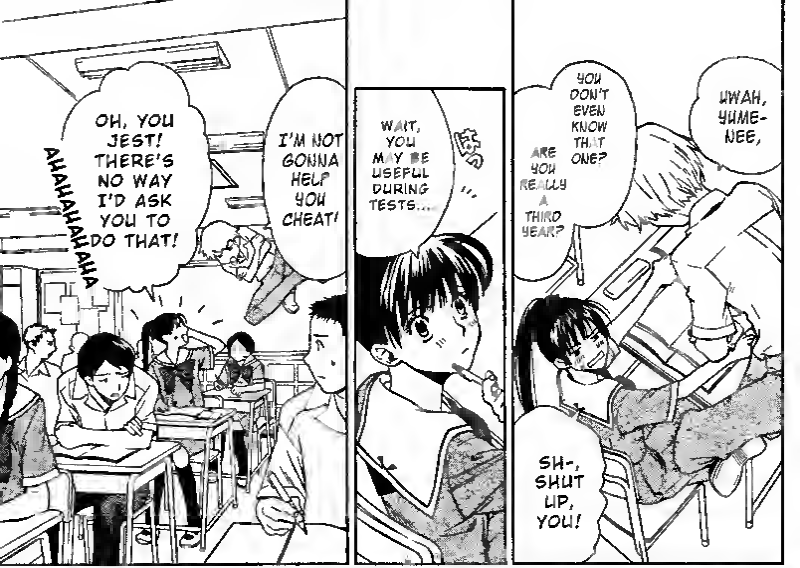

HMPH!

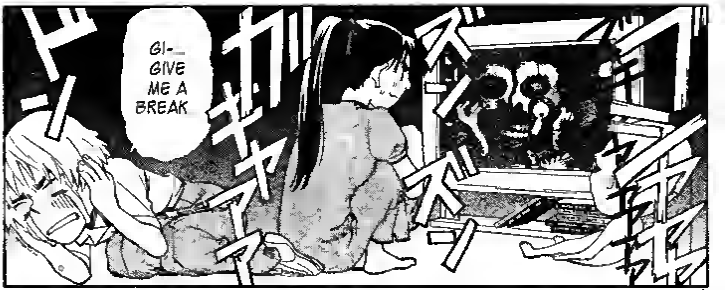
HM?
BESIDES, IT WAS HIM WHO...
YUME-NEE...
HE SURE HAS GOTTEN CHEEKY SINCE HE DIED!
WHAT'S WITH HIM!?

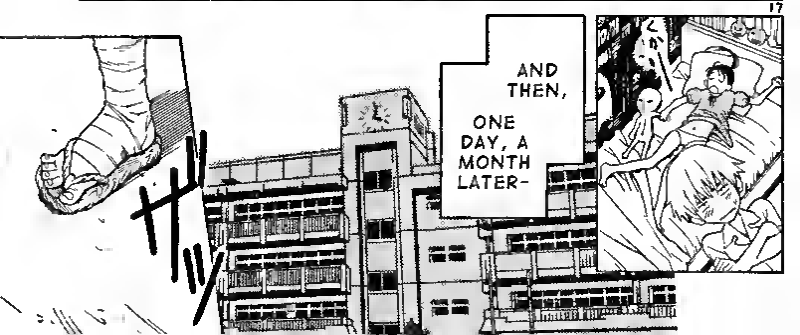
I-, I CAN'T!
I CAN'T LEAVE YOU...
WHAT'RE YOU STILL DOING HERE!? YOU SAID YOU'D LEAVE!
WHA-, WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WELL, YOU SEE, I TRIED TO LEAVE..
BUT I CAN'T GO FURTHER THAN THIS.
IT LOOKS LIKE..
I'M ATTACHED TO YOU...
EH... EEEEH!?



ED NOTE: QUICK POLL - HOW MANY OF YOU WOULD PEEK =P


UWAH, YUME-NEE,
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW THAT ONE?
ARE YOU REALLY A THIRD YEAR?
SH-, SHUT UP, YOU!
WAIT, YOU MAY BE USEFUL DURING TESTS....
I'M NOT GONNA HELP YOU CHEAT!
OH, YOU JEST! THERE'S NO WAY I'D ASK YOU TO DO THAT!
AHAHAHAHAHA

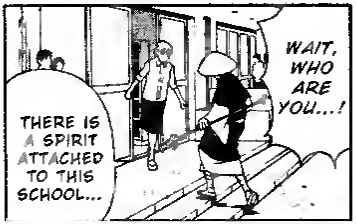

GI-_ GIVE ME A BREAK


AND THEN,
ONE DAY, A MONTH LATER-

IS HERE ...
THE BOY WHO WAS HIT BY LIGHT-NING...

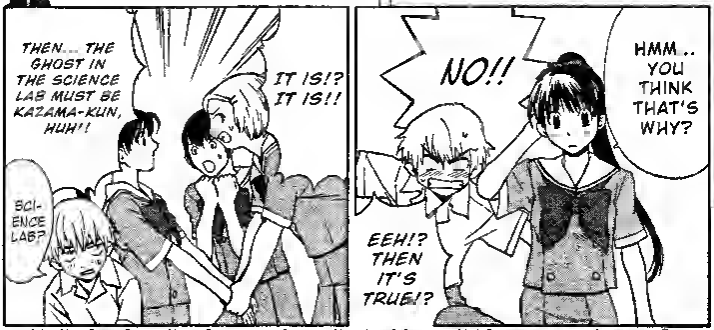
IT'S THIS SCHOOL.
NO MISTA-KING IT...
ミンミンミーン
私立鳳月学園

YOU CAN'T GO IN THERE ...
NOW, NOW..
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?


THERE IS A SPIRIT ATTACHED TO THIS SCHOOL...
WAIT, WHO ARE YOU...!

ABOUT SEEING GHOSTS, OR THE LIKE ...
HAVE THERE BEEN ANY STRANGE RUMORS GOING AROUND THIS SCHOOL?
RUMORS?

A WANDERING SPIRIT-UALIST.
I AM HOMURA SHIDOU.
HO-... HOW COULD YOU...

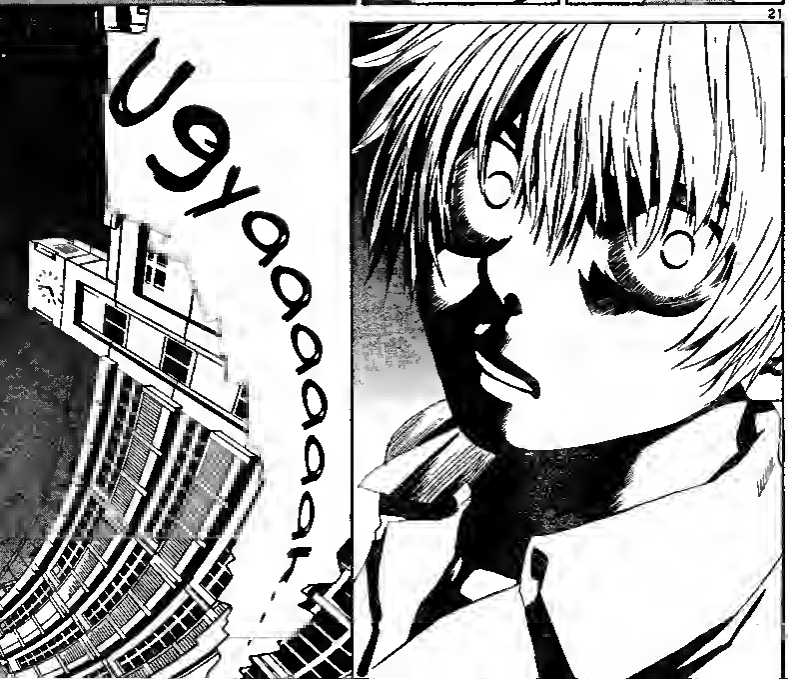


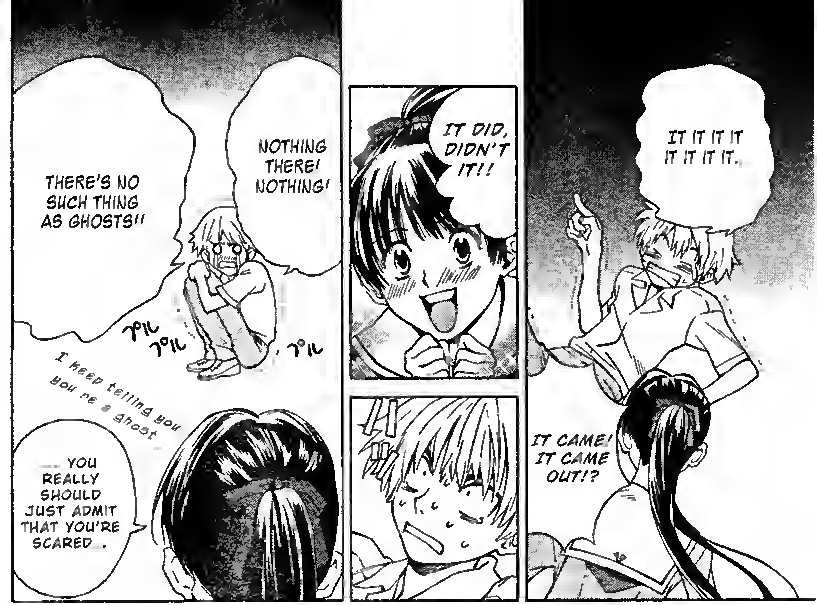
ED NOTE TALKING TO YOURSELF IN CLASS DOESN'T QUALIFY AS WEIRD? 19

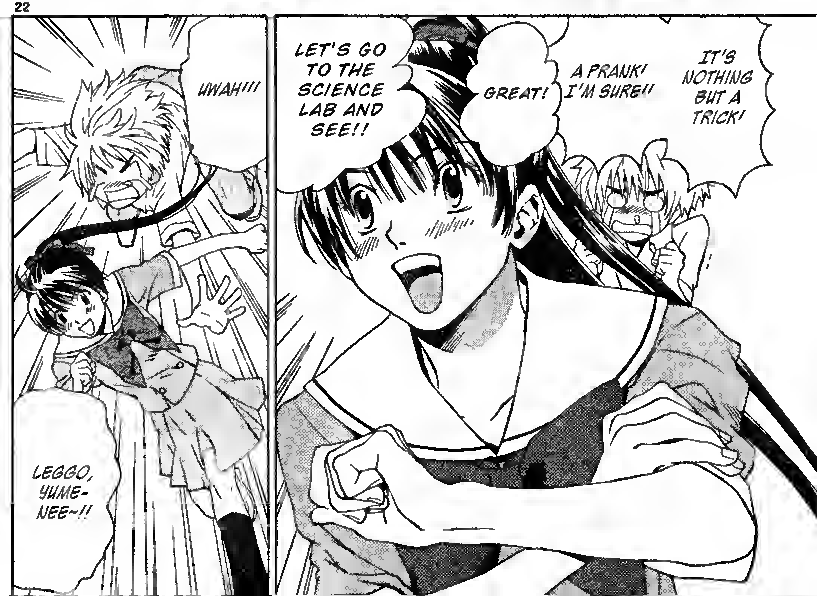
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS, BE SURE TO CALL US!
SU-... SURE...
BUT YOU HAVEN'T DONE THAT IN SO LONG WE'RE GETTING WORRIED..
AND YUMEKO, YOU'RE KIND OF FAMOUS FOR BEING WEIRD,
THEY SAY HE GLOWS AT THE WINDOW AT NIGHT ...
THE FORM OF A YOUNG BOY...
EVERY-ONE'S SEEN IT!

I HAVEN'T!!
WHEN'D YOU START GOING TO THE SCIENCE LAB?
YOU HAVEN'T GONE THERE SINCE THE DAY I DIED!
I COULDN'T LEAVE YOU IF I WANTED TO
SO THE ONE AT THE WINDOW ISN'T ME!
HMM... I GUESS SO...
20
BESIDES, GHOSTS DON'T EXIST
BUT YOU'RE A GHOST.
WH
REGARDLESS, THEY WERE JUST SEEING THINGS
THIS IS RIDICULOUS, LET'S GO HOME
HEY,
LET'S GO HOME!!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY IT!!
BUT I WANNA SEE IT' THIS GHOST IN THE SCIENCE LAB

YOU'RE NOT SCARED ARE YOU?
OF COURSE I'M NOT!
NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF SINCE GHOSTS DON'T...


Uyaaa


THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS GHOSTS!!
NOTHING THERE! NOTHING!
プル プル プル
I keep telling you you're a ghost.
...YOU REALLY SHOULD JUST ADMIT THAT YOU'RE SCARED.
IT DID, DIDN'T IT!!
IT IT IT IT IT IT IT IT..
IT CAME! IT CAME OUT!?

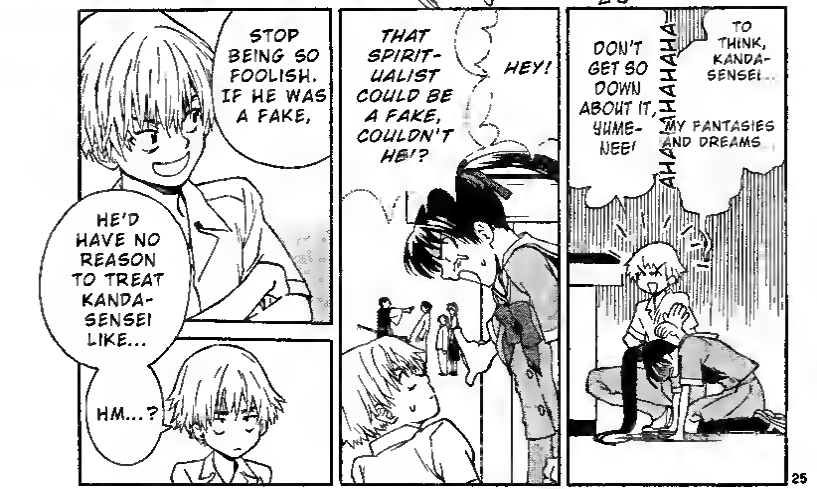

UWAH!!!
LEGGO, YUME-NEE~!!
LET'S GO TO THE SCIENCE LAB AND SEE!!
GREAT!
A PRANK! I'M SURE!!
IT'S NOTHING BUT A TRICK!

<APPROXIMATELY $45,373.30 BY CURRENT EXCHANGE RATES>

IF THIS SPIRIT IS LEFT ALONE,
HE WILL CURSE THIS CLASS-ROOM.
IF THE SPIRIT'S POWERS ARE ALLOWED TO IN-CREASE,
FIRES OR ACCIDENTS MAY BEGIN HAPPENING,
AND STUDENTS WILL SURELY LEAVE THIS SCHOOL.

UH... UHH, BUT...
OF COURSE, SOMEONE WILL ULTIMATELY BE BLAMED.
IF THE SCHOOL LOOSES STUDENTS,
TEACHERS LEAVE,
YOU MUSTN'T BE FOOLED, PRINCIPAL!
THIS MAN IS FAR TOO...
OH? YOU DON'T TRUST ME?
KANDA-SENSEI?
!
H-, HOW COULD YOU KNOW MY NAME...
ANY SCHOOLED SPIRITUALIST
CAN GATHER INFORMATION ABOUT A PERSON THROUGH HIS PERSONAL SKELETONS
EVEN THEIR DARKEST SECRETS...
SE-... SECRETS ...
IN-DEED ...

HEMORR-HOIDS..
SUFFER FROM HEMORR-HOIDS!
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU
ガガガ
ガガ


STOP BEING SO FOOLISH. IF HE WAS A FAKE,
HE'D HAVE NO REASON TO TREAT KANDA-SENSEI LIKE...
HM...?
THAT SPIRIT-UALIST COULD BE A FAKE, COULDN'T HE!?
HEY!
DON'T GET SO DOWN ABOUT IT, YUME-NEE!
AHAHAHAHA
TO THINK, KANDA-SENSEI... MY FANTASIES AND DREAMS

THEN ...
YE-... YES...
WOULD 5 MILLION BE APPROPRIATE FOR THE JOB AT HAND?
WELL, AFTER SEEING MY SPIRITUAL POWERS...
KAZAMA SATORU WILL BE SENT TO THE NEXT LIFE.
I WILL EXORCISE THE BOY FROM THIS ROOM...
シャー
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, ASSHOLE!!!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN HERE SINCE I DIED!
I'VE NEVER BEEN BACK TO THE SCIENCE ROOM!

KAAAAAAH!!
BESIDES, THIS ISN'T ME!!
...HUH?
27
AND NOW KAZAMA SATORU'S SPIRIT HAS BEEN SENT ON!
OH... OOOOH ...!!
WH-...
WHAT THE...!?

EH...
YUME-NEE! YOU GOTTA DO SOMETHING!!
THIS GUY'S A FAKE!!
HE'S PRETENDING TO EXORCIZE ME,
AND CONNING THE PRINCIPAL OUT OF 5 MILLION YEN!
THE VANISHING GHOST WAS A TRICK!
STOP HIM, YUME-NEE!
HE'S GOT NO SPIRITUAL POWERS!
AND NOW, TO THE FIVE MILLION...

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN HEAR MY VOICE
I DON'T WANT SOMEONE USING MY DEATH LIKE THIS
HELP ME, YUME-NEE!!

LET'S TALK IN THE OFFICE ...
OK...!
RI-...
RIGHT ...

DON'T LET HIM CON YOU SO EASILY!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!

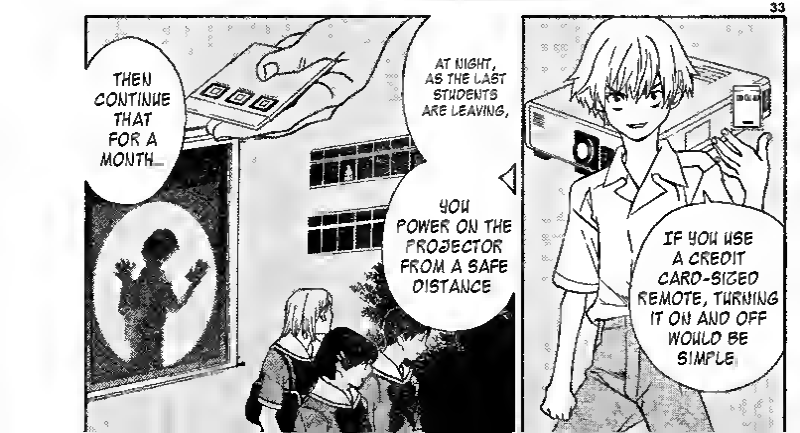
SATORU'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND!!
I'M JYUU-MONJI YUMEKO!
WH-...
WHO'RE YOU!?
BECAUSE HE DIDN'T EXORCISE ANYTHING!

HOW DARE YOU USE SATORU'S DEATH LIKE THIS,
AND THEN YOU PRETEND TO BE A SPIRITUALIST!
YOU CHEAP CON ARTIST!!
RI-, RIDICULOUS!
UTTER NONSENSE
HO-, HOW DO I EXPLAIN IT?
IT'S NOT NONSENSE ...
GOTCHA COVERED!
WE'LL USE YOUR VOICE
AND MY LOGIC,
AND WE'LL NAIL THESE GUYS!!

RUN, YUME-NEE!
YE-, YEAH...!
TO THE WINDOW!
SURE!
THAT'S...
AH...
AH...
THIS...!?
TAKE THAT FILM OFF!!

32
A HOLOGRAM SCREEN.
THIS IS THE GHOST'S TRUE IDENTITY!
THIS IS THE PROOF OF THE TRICK!
I DON'T REALLY GET IT, BUT THIS IS WHERE THE GHOST CAME FROM!
THEY'RE NORMALLY USED TO PROJECT IMAGES ONTO STORE WINDOWS AS DISPLAYS.
IT REFLECTS LIGHT WITH VERY LITTLE DIFFRACTION,
A SPECIAL FILM THAT ADDS AN AMBIENT LIGHT AROUND THE IMAGE, GIVING IT A LIMITED SHADOW

THE PRO-JECTOR!
PU-... PURO ...
EH?
EH... UHM ...
WHAT CONNECTION WOULD THAT FILM HAVE TO ANYTHING?
HAH HAH HAH, LITTLE LADY.
ON THE SHELVES ... THAT!!
YO-, YOU HAVE A PROJECTOR!
PRO-JEC-TOR!
IT'S THE ENGLISH FOR 'EISHAK!''


THEN CONTINUE THAT FOR A MONTH...
AT NIGHT, AS THE LAST STUDENTS ARE LEAVING,
YOU POWER ON THE PROJECTOR FROM A SAFE DISTANCE
IF YOU USE A CREDIT CARD-SIZED REMOTE, TURNING IT ON AND OFF WOULD BE SIMPLE.

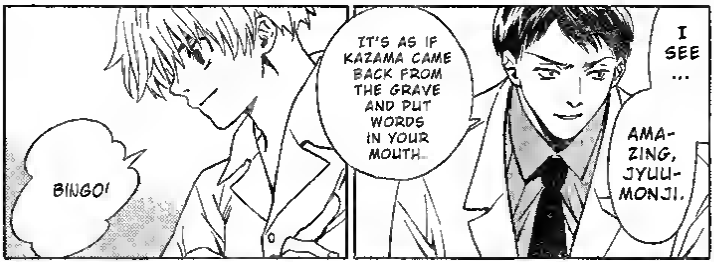
EH?
NO, NOT HIM
THE ONE WITH THE REMOTE, IT HAS TO BE MISTER FAKE...
AND OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE FREE ACCESS TO THE SCIENCE LAB
YOU ARE THIS FAKE SPIRITUALIST'S ACCOMPLICE
A SCIENCE TEACHER WOULD BE THE LEAST SUSPICIOUS MAN TO BE IN THE SCIENCE ROOM LATE AT NIGHT...
KANDA-SENSEI, IT'S YOU.
KANDA-SENSEI, YOU COULDN'T HAVE...
KANDA-KUN...!

SO I'M FOUND OUT.
DAMN ...
..HAH ...

I HAD HIM, HOMURA, PRETEND TO BE A SPIRIT-UALIST,
I EVEN PLAYED THE FOOL SO THE PRINCIPAL WOULD BBELIEVE IT.
AND I WAS SO CLOSE. I'M THE ONE WHO PLANNED IT.

HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS ME?
REVERSE PSYCH-OLOGY.
SEN-SEI ...
JYUU-MONJI ...
THANKS TO YOU, THIS ENDS WITH MY SHAME.

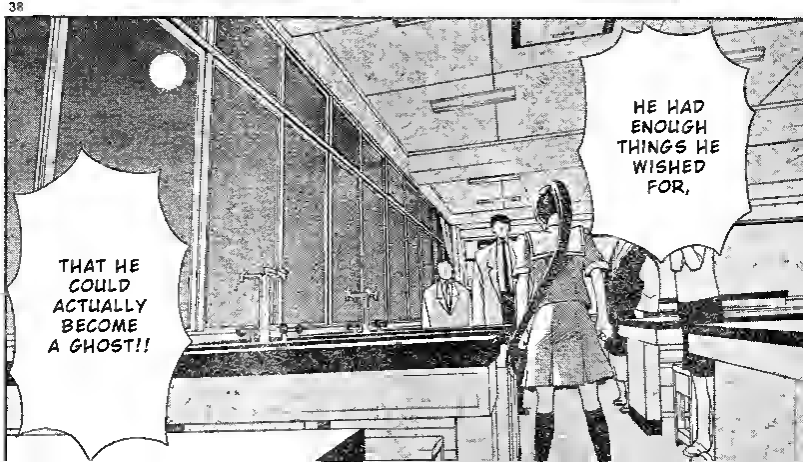
HOW-EVER,
IF HE WAS ASKED TO SAY SOME-THING ABOUT ALL OF YOU,
THEN HE WOULD HAVE FAILED TO DO SO.
YOU MET WITH YOUR PARTNER IN ADVANCE,
AND THEN YOU TOLD HIM SOMETHING ABOUT YOU THAT NO ONE ELSE SHOULD KNOW.
IT'S A COMMON PRACTICE AMONGST FALSE SPIRIT-UALISTS


BINGO!
IT'S AS IF KAZAMA CAME BACK FROM THE GRAVE AND PUT WORDS IN YOUR MOUTH.
I SEE ...
AMA-ZING, JYUU-MONJI.

KAZAMA DIED WITH INCREDIBLY GOOD TIMING...
WHILE I WAS LOOKING FOR A WAY TO PAY THEM OFF,
YOU SEE, HOMURA AND I ARE OLD COLLEGE CLASS-MATES,
AND WE GAINED QUITE A BIT OF GAMBLING DEBTS OVER THE YEARS.
THAT'S RIGHT, PRIN-CIPAL.
KANDA-KUN, THEN YOU...

IT'S A SHAME.
JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE AND WE WOULD HAVE HAD IT...
37
リアン

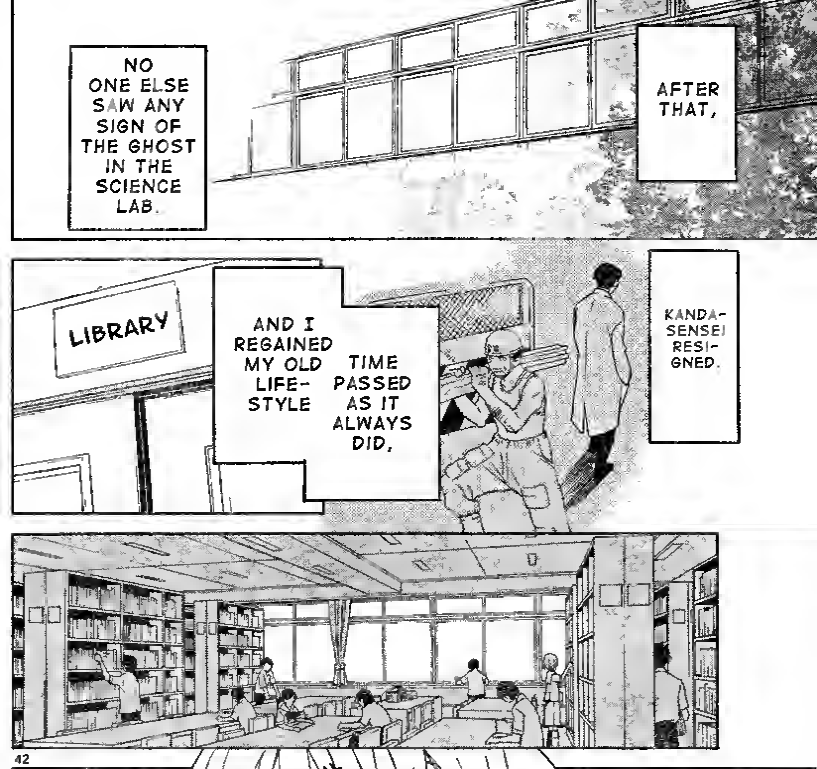
YUME-NEE...
IT'S NOT LIKE HE DIED FOR YOU...
TIMING ...
WHEN HE WAS LIVING...
BUT HE HAD SO MANY THINGS HE WANTED TO DO,
SATORU'S LIFE ENDED,


THAT HE COULD ACTUALLY BECOME A GHOST!!
HE HAD ENOUGH THINGS HE WISHED FOR,

NO ONE ELSE,
CAN HEAR HIS VOICE!
NOW NO ONE ELSE,
CAN SEE HIM AT ALL!
YOU...
NOW YOU...
AND NOW YOU,

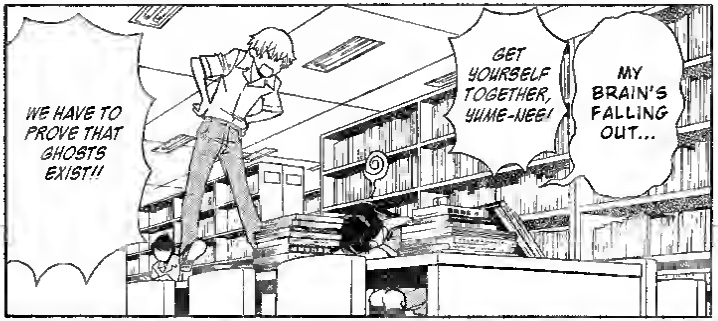
ASSHOLE!!
...YES.
I APOL-OGIZE.

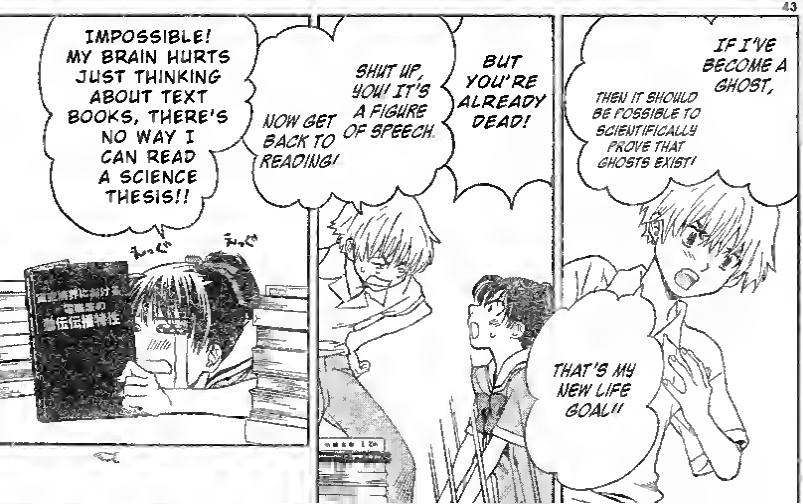
THANKS...
YUME-NEE.....


NO ONE ELSE SAW ANY SIGN OF THE GHOST IN THE SCIENCE LAB.
AFTER THAT,
LIBRARY
AND I REGAINED MY OLD LIFE-STYLE
TIME PASSED AS IT ALWAYS DID.
KANDA-SENSEI RESIGNED.

WAKE UP!!

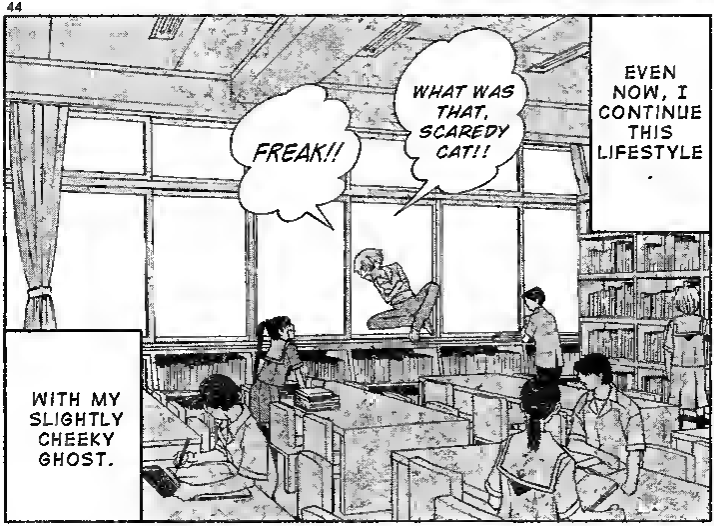
NO MORE .....
FUNYA~


WE HAVE TO PROVE THAT GHOSTS EXIST!!
GET YOURSELF TOGETHER, YUME-NEE!
MY BRAIN'S FALLING OUT...


IMPOSSIBLE! MY BRAIN HURTS JUST THINKING ABOUT TEXT BOOKS, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN READ A SCIENCE THESIS!!
NOW GET BACK TO READING!
SHUT UP, YOU! IT'S A FIGURE OF SPEECH.
BUT YOU'RE ALREADY DEAD!
IF I'VE BECOME A GHOST,
THEN IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SCIENTIFICALLY PROVE THAT GHOSTS EXIST!
THAT'S MY NEW LIFE GOAL!!

TO THINK, YOUR LIFE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN WASTED ON ALL THAT OCCULT CRAP,
YOU REALLY SHOULD TAKE THIS CHANCE
PLUS, YOU REALLY SHOULD THANK ME FOR GIVING IT TO YOU
WHA-,
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY!?

I'LL MAKE YOU REGRET THAT WHEN WE GET HOME!
EH
DON'T FORGET, I RENTED LOTS OF MOVIES LAST TIME!!
HE-, HEY, CUT ME SOME SLACK, YUME-NEE


EVEN NOW, I CONTINUE THIS LIFESTYLE.
WHAT WAS THAT, SCAREDY CAT!!
FREAK!!
WITH MY SLIGHTLY CHEEKY GHOST.

ゴーストロジック・完